



Thomas Jefferson University
Jefferson Digital Commons

Department of Neurosurgery Faculty Papers

Department of Neurosurgery

12-2018

Spinal Infections: From Prevention to Cure

James Harrop

Follow this and additional works at: <https://jdc.jefferson.edu/neurosurgeryfp>

 Part of the [Neurology Commons](#), and the [Surgery Commons](#)

[Let us know how access to this document benefits you](#)

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Jefferson Digital Commons. The Jefferson Digital Commons is a service of Thomas Jefferson University's [Center for Teaching and Learning \(CTL\)](#). The Commons is a showcase for Jefferson books and journals, peer-reviewed scholarly publications, unique historical collections from the University archives, and teaching tools. The Jefferson Digital Commons allows researchers and interested readers anywhere in the world to learn about and keep up to date with Jefferson scholarship. This article has been accepted for inclusion in Department of Neurosurgery Faculty Papers by an authorized administrator of the Jefferson Digital Commons. For more information, please contact: JeffersonDigitalCommons@jefferson.edu.

Editorial

Global Spine Journal
 2018, Vol. 8(4S) 4S
 © The Author(s) 2018
 Article reuse guidelines:
sagepub.com/journals-permissions
 DOI: 10.1177/2192568218815915
journals.sagepub.com/home/gsj



AOSpine North America (AOSNA) is honored to have the ability to present this focused issue on spinal infections. As we are all aware, spinal infections are a prevalent part of our daily treatment regimen as spine surgeons—whether these infections are in our elective practice or emergencies. Yao et al discuss how to identify patients with an increased risk for infections in “Surgical Site Infection in Spine Surgery: Who Is at Risk?” Spina et al. instruct use how to avoid infections in “Surgical Site Infections in Spine Surgery: Preoperative Prevention Strategies to Minimize Risk” Then, Dowdell et al explain how to prevent, identify, and diagnosis any postoperative spine surgical infections (“Postoperative Spine Infection: Diagnosis and Management”) and Nasser et al detail with the evidence shows in order to treat these postop infections in the most efficient manner (“Risk Factors and Prevention of Surgical Site Infections Following Spinal Procedures”).

Taylor et al reviews the option for treating primary diskitis (“Presentation and Outcomes After Medical and Surgical Treatment Versus Medical Treatment Alone of Spontaneous Infectious Spondylodiscitis: A Systematic Literature Review and Meta-Analysis”). We then review diagnosis and treatment of epidural abscess by spinal regions. Each region has a unique

anatomic makeup, and thus diagnosis and treatment should be approached individually:

- Cervical: Stricsek et al (“Etiology and Surgical Management of Cervical Spinal Epidural Abscess (SEA): A Systematic Review”)
- Thoracic: Howie et al (“Thoracic Epidural Abscesses: A Systematic Review”)
- Lumbar: de Leeuw et al (“Lumbar Epidural Abscesses: A Systematic Review”)

In addition, Rajasekaran et al provide a more global prospective with their knowledge and insight in treating spinal tuberculosis (“Spinal Tuberculosis: Current Concepts”).

It is our hope that this focus issue provides a baseline of evidence-based literature to help direct patient care.

James S. Harrop, MD, FACS

*Professor, Departments of Neurological
and Orthopedic Surgery*

*Director, Division of Spine and Peripheral Nerve Surgery
Neurosurgery Director of Delaware Valley SCI Center
Thomas Jefferson University*



Creative Commons Non Commercial No Derivs CC BY-NC-ND: This article is distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial-NoDerivs 4.0 License (<http://www.creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>) which permits non-commercial use, reproduction and distribution of the work as published without adaptation or alteration, without further permission provided the original work is attributed as specified on the SAGE and Open Access pages (<https://us.sagepub.com/en-us/nam/open-access-at-sage>).